GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4481
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2003
DEATH OF OLIVE RIDLEY SEA TURTLES
GADDE RAMAMOHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Empowered Committee has submitted its report on the death of Olive Ridley Sea Turtles along Orissa coast;

(b) if so, the details of suggestions and recommendations made by the Committee; and

(c) the action taken by the Government on the said Committee?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEV)

(a), (b) & (c) The Central Empowered Committee constituted by the Supreme Court of India have given directions to the state government of Orissa on Application Number 46 regarding measures to be undertaken for protection and safeguarding of turtles. These directions include, inter alia, the following:

1. To strictly enforce the judgment of Orissa High Court dated 14th May1998 in the CEL-WWF case.

2. Establishment of permanent camps at Devi river mouth and Rushikulaya mouth.

3. Fisheries Department to suspend licenses of fishing boats not using Turtle Excluder Devise.

4. State government to provide the infrastructure required for protection of turtles and safe custody of seized boats/trawlers.

5. All gill net boats operating within 5 kms of the three nesting sites to be banned for three months (date of issue of interim directions: 7-3-03).